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BIWEEKLY REPORT

COMMUNIST STATEMENTS REGARDING INTERVENTION  
IN VIETNAM AND POSSIBLE NEGOTIATIONS

15 May 1966

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Washington 25, D. C.  
15 May 1966

**MEMORANDUM**

Attached is a compilation of Communist statements on possible direct military intervention in Vietnam situation, and on possible negotiations toward a settlement, received since our biweekly report (OCI no. 0509/66) issued 30 April 1966)

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SUMMARY

NEGOTIATIONS

INTERVENTION

USSR Moscow's public and private positions on negotiations have not changed.

Moscow continues to reiterate its standard public position of support for the DRV.

China Peking's opposition to negotiations remains unchanged.

Both public and private statements by the Chinese continue to imply that a Sino-US war will occur only if the US attacks China.

DRV In propaganda and public statements during the past two weeks Hanoi reaffirmed its intention to press on with the war until a settlement is reached on Communist terms. In speeches surrounding May Day festivities and the visit of a Rumanian party/government delegation, the North Vietnamese leadership voiced its continued adherence to its four-point formulation and insisted that it would not compromise its position.

Hanoi made no significant statements on the issue of foreign intervention in the Vietnam war during the past two weeks.

NFLSV The Liberation Front has made no significant statements on the subject of negotiations during the past two weeks.

The Liberation Front made no significant statements on the possibility of outside intervention on its behalf in the Vietnam war.

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COMMUNIST STATEMENTS ON INTERVENTION IN VIETNAM

Selected Soviet Statements on Intervention

Selected Soviet  
Public Statements

9 May 1966: A Pravda editorial notes routinely that the Soviet Union and other socialist countries are fulfilling their "internationalist duty" of giving "effective assistance" to the Vietnamese.

Selected Soviet  
Private Statements

Moscow's public expressions of support for the DRV remain unchanged.

Comments

Selected Chinese Communist References to Intervention

Selected Chinese  
Public Statements

Selected Chinese  
Private Statements

Comments

Mid-April 1966: A Hong Kong Chicom newspaper on 28 April carried excerpts of an article by Anna Louise Strong on the possibility of a Sino-US war. She stated that China would not start a war, but that if the US attacks China then China would wage a war "which the US not able to win." Strong stated that Chinese troops would intervene in the Vietnamese war only at Vietnamese request and that Peking does not expect this to happen unless the nature

This is in line with past Chinese statements that a Sino-US war would be caused by a US attack.

Selected Chinese  
Public Statements

Selected Chinese  
Private Statements

Comments

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Mid-April 1966 Cont: of the  
war changes significantly.  
She argued that "Chinese aid  
to Vietnam does not make China  
a warring power." [redacted]

9 May 1966: Peking broadcast  
remarks made by Chou En-lai in  
early April--in an interview he  
gave to the Pakistan newspaper  
Dawn--in which he indicated  
that a war started by US air or  
sea action might result in re-  
taliation by Chinese ground  
forces and that once such a  
war had broken out it would

"have no boundaries." [redacted]

Chou repeated warnings made  
many times previously and they  
appear intended to deter the  
US from air action against tar-  
gets in China and reflect Chi-  
nese concern about US attack  
aircraft approaching the DRV-CPR  
border. The Chinese gave Chou's  
statement no publicity when it  
was first printed on 27 April.

COMMUNIST STATEMENTS ON NEGOTIATIONS IN VIETNAM

Selected Soviet Statements on Negotiations

Selected Soviet  
Public Statements

Selected Soviet  
Private Statements

Comments

10 May 1966: During a banquet in the UAR Soviet Premier Kosygin said, "The Soviet Union completely supports the program for a settlement of the Vietnam question put forward by the government of the DRV and the program of the NFLSV."

There has been no change in Moscow's public position of support for the DRV on this question.

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Selected Chinese Communist References to Negotiations

<u>Selected Chinese Public Statements</u>	<u>Selected Chinese Private Statements</u>	<u>Comments</u>
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5-7 May 1966: Peking issued new propaganda blasts against the negotiation proposals made by Senator Mansfield on 18 April, calling them "absurd, a swindle, a hoax and a reproduction" of "unconditional" discussions offer made by the US a year ago. Peking repeated its charge that the proposals reflected desperate US effort to get out of military predicament in Vietnam and claimed that the idea of "locating a peace table" some place in Asia was "pure nonsense" and a "trap."

This is Peking's standard hard line on negotiations.

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Selected North Vietnamese References to Negotiations

<u>Selected DRV Public Statements</u>	<u>Selected DRV Private Statements</u>	<u>Comments</u>
April 1966: In an article in the April issue of the North Vietnamese Party theoretical journal, <u>Hoc Tap</u> , Col. Ha Van Lau condemned the "so-called return to the Geneva accords of the US imperialists." Lau asserted that "the US call for a return to the accords was in fact aimed at sabotaging the basic content and opposing the main provisions of the accords and opposing the four-point stand of our government-- a stand which reflects in a concentrated way the main principles and provisions of these accords."		Col. Ha Van Lau in his role North Vietnam's Liaison Commission to the ICC repeatedly alleged US violations of the Geneva agreements in both North and South Vietnam. In addition, Vietnamese propaganda on the war has been consistent in claiming that the US by bombing the North and sending troops to the South is grossly violating the Geneva accords. Hanoi has also claimed that the DRV position on settling the war is in keeping with the accords.

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Selected DRV  
Public Statements

Selected DRV  
Private Statements

Comments

1 May 1966: In his May Day speech at a grand rally in Hanoi Hoang Quoc Viet, president of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions, reiterated Hanoi's support of its four-points and the five point stand of the NFLSV for settling the war and asserted that the Vietnamese people are "ready to fight and have the conditions necessary to fight for 5, 10, 20 years or more, until final victory.

7 May 1966: In a speech at a reception in Hanoi welcoming the visiting Rumanian party-government delegation North Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh reaffirmed the DRV's determination to prosecute the war. Trinh in part asserted that "the legitimate aspiration of the Vietnamese people has been clearly expounded in the four-point stand of the DRV Government and the five-point statement of the South Vietnam National Liberation Front, the sole genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people. If

This reaffirmation of Hanoi's resolve to prosecute the war to a conclusion on Communist terms was a prominent element in May Day propaganda and was frequently coupled with claims of great success in fighting US aircraft, and of making further developments in the economic and social spheres of national life.

The North Vietnamese accorded the Rumanian delegation a lavish and warm reception in the DRV. In speeches and ceremonies during the visit the Vietnamese received the standard protestations of support for their position rendered by bloc delegations and in turn voiced their resolve to fight on until the war was ended on their terms.

<u>Selected DRV Public Statements</u>	<u>Selected DRV Private Statements</u>	<u>Comments</u>
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7 May 1966 Cont'd: the US really wants peace, it must withdraw all US and satellite troops from South Vietnam and stop the aggressive war there, stop at once and unconditionally the war of destruction in North Vietnam, and the problem of re-unification of Vietnam must be settled by the Vietnamese people themselves without foreign interference as stipulated by the Geneva agreements.

8 May 1966: At a grand meeting in Hanoi called in honor of the visiting Rumanian party/government delegation, Tran Duy Hung, chairman of the Hanoi Administrative Committee, in a speech of welcome said in part that, "the only correct basis for the settlement of the Vietnam issue resides in the four-point stand of the National Assembly and Government of the DRV and the 22 March statement of the NFLSV. The just stand of the Vietnamese people has been solemnly expounded by President Ho Chi Minh in his letter addressed to the heads of state or governments of various countries on 24 January."

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